



**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HIV/AIDS INFORMATION SOURCES AND  
PREMATURE SEXUAL KNOWLEDGE IN ADOLESCENTS**

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**ABSTRACT**

The issue of HIV/AIDS among adolescents is still relatively high and has quite an impact on the reproductive health of adolescents themselves. Adolescents are at risk of having premarital sex so that HIV/AIDS transmission can occur. Adolescents are also an age group that uses a lot of social media to access all kinds of information, one of which is HIV/AIDS. So with this information, adolescents increasingly understand the importance of avoiding premarital sexual incidents. This study aims to explain whether or not there is a relationship between sources of HIV/AIDS information obtained by adolescents and premarital sexual knowledge. This study uses a cross-sectional design with the Proportionate Stratified Random Sampling technique to 136 respondents (adolescents). Data collection uses instruments that have been tested valid and reliable through Spearman's Rho Correlation. There is a relationship between sources of HIV/AIDS information and premarital sexual knowledge in adolescents with a p-value < alpha. It turns out that sources of HIV/AIDS information are related to premarital sexual knowledge because adolescents can avoid premarital sexual incidents to avoid contracting HIV/AIDS.

Keywords: adolescents; HIV/AIDS; knowledge; premature sexual

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**INTRODUCTION**

The issue of reproductive health and sexuality is still one of the topics that is still quite trending to be studied in Indonesia, even this sexual behavior is in line with the activity of consuming excessive alcohol and also the use of illegal drugs (Tungka et al., 2022). As age increases, the search for information and interest in free sex among teenagers also increases (Handayani, 2024). Adolescence (starting 15 to 18 years) is a transitional period of development from childhood to adult. This age experiences a true state of curiosity, feeling natural sexual urges due to hormonal changes (Yuya et al., 2021). Free sex is a sexual activity that occurs quite frequently among teenagers and can cause infectious disease, for example, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Acquired Immune Deficient Virus (HIV) (Handayani, 2024; Kuhns et al., 2021). This can be influenced by the lack of social values, culture, stigma towards individuals and knowledge about premarital sex itself (Tungka et al., 2022). HIV has become a public health problem, especially in Indonesia. New cases of people estimated to be living with HIV continue to be reported in every province (Kurniadi et al., 2025). While the number of new infections from HIV is still high among teenagers (Adebayo et al., 2023).

Forms of premarital sexual behavior among teenagers, starting from emergence of feeling of attraction between the opposite sex going on dates, kissing, holding each other's sensitive areas to having intercourse (Wardani et al., n.d.). to slow down the transmission of HIV, there needs to be increased care and/or prevention (Ferrari et al., 2024). Media sources (internet, television, and magazines) are used by adolescents (under 18 years of age) to obtain information about accepting sexual health (Tabaac et al., 2021). The use of social media is one strategy that can influence knowledge about HIV in adolescents. Actually, the main sources of information are teachers at school and health workers. Exposure to information through social media is not important enough if the accuracy of the information and the information intended are not in accordance with the age group (Ndlovu et al., 2023). Inadequate information about reproduction, makes teenagers face many problems that will have negative consequences on their health (Yuya et al., 2021). SMP Negeri 6 is one of the most favorite schools in Jayapura Regency, with many teenagers students in this school. However, most students have never received information on prevention of STIs, HIV/AIDS or promiscuity among teenagers. So the purpose of this study is to analyze the relationship between HIV/AIDS information obtained with the level of knowledge possessed about premarital sex in teenagers.

**METHOD**

This pre-experimental study used a one group only design without a control group involving a population of 207 and 136 adolescents were taken using the Slovin formula and with the Proportionate Stratified Random Sampling technique for the sampling method. Respondents were adolescents who were studying at SMP Negeri 6 Sentani, Jayapura Regency, with male and female, respondent with middle adolescent levels (aged 15-17 years), physically healthy, able to communicate well, follow the research until completion and willing to be subjects by signing the consent form to become respondents. The variables of this study are sources of information about HIV/AIDS as independent variables (variable 1) and premarital sexual knowledge as dependent variables (variable 2). Data collection used an instrument in the form of a questionnaire that had been tested as valid ( $r_{count} > r_{table}$ ) and reliable (with a  $p$  value  $> 0,60$ ). The questionnaire was filled out for 15-20 minutes. The results of the study were analyzed using the Spearman Rho test with a significance value of  $p$  value  $< 0.05$ . This study has gone through an ethical test with no. 435/XI/2024/Bioethics Commission. Data processing was carried out by editing the completeness of respondents' answers, coding answer scores, and checking data if there was something wrong at the end.

**RESULT**

Table 1.

Variables of Sources of Information about HIV/AIDS and Premarital Sexual Knowledge

Variables	f	%
<b>Sources of Information about HIV-AIDS</b>		
Not yet at all	15	11
Others	38	28
Social media	51	38
Others and social media	32	23
<b>Premarital Sexual Knowledge</b>		
Good	24	18
Enough	80	59
Less	32	23

Table 1 shows that most respondents get information about HIV/AIDS from health workers totaling 51 people (38%). While premarital sexual knowledge is mostly in the sufficient category of 80 people (59%).

Table 2.

**Relationship Between HIV/AIDS Information Sources and Premature Sexual Knowledge**

Variables	Premature Sexual Knowledge	Sig. (2-tailed)
HIV/AIDS Information Sources	-0,186*	0,030

In table 2, the variable of information sources about HIV/AIDS with premarital sexual knowledge obtained a significance value of p-value of 0.030 of smaller than the alpha value (0.05). this shows that there is a relationship but with a weak correlation between sources of information about HIV/AIDS and premarital sexual knowledge. The correlation value of -0.186\* also shows a negative direction, which means that sources of information about HIV/AIDS are inverely proportional to premarital sexual knowledge.

**DISCUSSION**

**Sources of Information about HIV-AIDS**

Most respondents get information about HIV-AIDS from social media. The information obtained can vary, ranging from what HIV is, why people get HIV, whether teenagers can get HIV, to even respondents who know about HIV but do not really understand the concept of HIV and AIDS. Respondents seem to have “heard” but do not understand, do not really know what HIV is like. The rapid development of technology provides the opportunity for everything to be easily accessed, which also triggers the development of free sexual behavior in Indonesia. Mass media is one of the various media used to access pornographic information for teenagers (Nurdin et al., 2024). One reason why the internet has emerged as a major source of knowledge about HIV and AIDS is the possibility is widely and easily available and accessible using mobile phones by adolescents. Knowledge about HIV and or AIDS will be understood about how it is transmitted, unsafe sex with HIV people, and touching the blood of HIV people without using personal protective equipment (Ndlovu et al., 2023).

**Premarital Sexual Knowledge**

Based on the results of this study, the respondents’ knowledge is in the category of sufficient in understanding about premarital sex. The knowledge obtained, such as “sexual behavior is a sexual desire that is done alone or with the opposite sex”, “having premarital sex can makes someone easily anxious, afraid, inferior, and even guilty”. While premarital sexual knowledge about “STIs are one of the diseases from premarital sex”, there are still many respondents who do not understand this. Premarital sex is a deviant act carried out by teenagers due to these factors. Personal experiences, environmental influences, or culture make teenagers have a reciprocal attitude to avoid conflict due to situations involving emotional or environmental factors. Sometimes this form of attitude becomes the basis that it is quite important for teenagers to know information about premarital sex so that prevention of this behavior can be done (Nurdin et al., 2024). Reproductive rights are an important investment in public health to save adolescent morbidity and mortality rates in this era. Universally, literacy rights increases by having the right choices and decisions about sexual and reproductive well-being in adolescents to reduce early marriage and childbirth, unsafe abortions and the transmission of HIV/AIDS (Yuya et al., 2021).

**Relationship between Sources of HIV-AIDS Information and Premarital Sexual Knowledge**

Based on this study, there is a weak correlation between variable 1 and variable 2. Respondents can get information about HIV and AIDS, but not enough to gain knowledge about premarital sexual behavior in the good category. Premarital sexual behavior can be suppressed if there is strong control in adolescents, so that adolescents can control the sexual urges that arise (Wardani et al., n.d.). The cause of premarital sex is that teenagers receive information about sex that is not appropriate for their age. Premarital sex can be risky to cause pregnancy before marriage and cause new vaginal problems for the perpetrator, such as

miscarriage, abortion, IUGR, IUFD, hypertension, and so on. This is because the reproductive organs of adolescents are not yet mature. Depression, feeling inferior, regret, sex addiction, declining school performance, and social sanctions will also occur as a result of premarital sex. Even premarital sex, which is an issue that has become a lifestyle among teenagers, can make teenagers even more daring in doing it, especially since premarital sex is considered 'cool' (Rahmah Firdaus et al., 2023).

The results of this study are consistent with what has been stated by several researchers, that knowledge of sexuality can be a factor in providing strong reasons for adolescents to respond to all sexual attitudes and behaviors through mature knowledge. Sexuality problems that occur in adolescents are caused by a lack of knowledge about sexuality so that adolescents are automatically 'blind' to sexual problems. If adolescents know the risks and consequences of premarital sexuality, then adolescents will also be very aware of such incidents in themselves (Fitri Wahyuni et al., 2023). Based on previous studies, high socioeconomic status indicates a better chance of having sexual and reproductive information through various types of media and health facilities. Previous studies have shown that knowledge about reproduction among students is positively and significantly related to their study period, higher education from the father's side, coming from a health faculty, coming from a wealthy and middle-class family, and participation in a reproductive health club (Yuya et al., 2021). Schools also play a role in the biological development process of teenagers by creating a disciplined environment, providing sex education about safe and mandatory guidelines for teenagers, understanding the risks ahead, and holding extracurricular activities (Wardani et al., n.d.).

## **CONCLUSION**

The source of HIV-AIDS information may be related to adolescents' level of knowledge about premarital sex, where the correlation is still very weak.

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